

## Message Text

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50

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-01 AGR-10 /121 W

----- 023233

R 241021Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 867

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

UNCLAS BERN 2575

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO, CT

SUBJECT: CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OFFERS CONCESSION FOR OIL  
EXPLORATION

1. THE FIRM SURCA SA IN BERN, ACTING ON BEHALF OF GOVERNMENT  
OF CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC HAS SENT LETTER DATED JUNE 13  
TO EMBASSY OFFERING CONCESSION FOR OIL EXPLORATION IN NORTHERN  
TERRITORIES BORDERING MAINLY ON CHAD AND COMPRISING AN AREA OF  
ROUGHLY 150,000 SQUARE KILOMETERS. (SURCA SA IS SWISS CORPORATION  
FORMED TO PROMOTE TRADE BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND CA REPUBLIC.  
SURCA PRESIDENT IS DANIEL GERBER, HONORARY CAR CONSUL IN SWITZER-  
LAND.)

2. CONCESSION WILL BE GRANTED ON PAYMENT OF SF 2.5 MILLION TO  
THE ACCOUNT OF SURCA SA, SONNENBERGRAIN 6, 3000 BERN.

3. PRINCIPAL TERMS OF CONCESSION ONCE WELLS ARE IN OPERATION  
FORESEE PAYMENT OF 51 PER CENT ROYALTIES TO THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND OF 3 PER CENT INTO  
A SPECIAL FUND IN SWITZERLAND. EXPLORATION TO START WITHIN  
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THREE YEARS OF GRANTING OF CONCESSION OTHERWISE FEE OF

SF 2.5 MILLION WILL BE LOST.

4. WE ARE INFORMED BY SURCA THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONCESSION OFFER (WHICH ALSO INVOLVES SEPARATE CONCESSIONS FOR DIAMONDS, COTTON, EXOTIC WOOD AND COFFEE) HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO ALL FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN BERN, AND THAT NO FURTHER DISTRIBUTION HAS BEEN MADE.

5. COPIES OF ANNOUNCEMENT AND ENCLOSURES BEING AIR POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT, AF/C (5) AND TO EMBASSY BANGUI (1).  
DOMINICK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 24 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 FEB 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 FEB 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** BTIO, CT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006